



ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY

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General Gordon R. Sullivan
United States Army (Ret.)
President

11 April 2012

On behalf of the membership of the Association of the United States Army, I write to thank you for sponsoring HR 3279 that would include “illness” as an eligible condition for the Department of Veterans Affairs’ (VA) caregiver benefit.

Currently, caregivers of service members or veterans with illnesses are ineligible for the VA’s caregiver benefit. The Department of Defense’s (DoD) “caregiver compensation” benefit does include illness. This creates the potential for caregivers to begin receiving the DoD benefit, then lose it once the service member gains veteran status. Your proposal will ensure there is a seamless transition of the caregiver benefit.

We appreciate your support of members of the Armed Services, veterans, and their families, and strongly support the enactment of HR 3279.

Sincerely,

GORDON R. SULLIVAN
General, USA Retired